



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE NEW LONDON  
GROTON, CONNECTICUT 06349-5000

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NSB NEW LONDON  
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26 DEC 1991

Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry  
Attn: Mr. Robert C. Williams, P. E.  
Director, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Dear Mr. C. Williams:

Reference is made to your letter of 20 November 1991, transmitting the preliminary Health Assessment for the Naval Submarine Base New London (SUBASE NLON). We have reviewed the documents and have found it lacking due to the age of the data. The Draft Remedial Investigation (RI) has been completed for four of the sites and the site investigations have been completed for the other seven. Additionally three rounds of testing of off-site wells have been completed.

We have discussed this with Carole Diamond of your Staff, and have requested Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command to send you a copy of the completed RI. We have also enclosed a data package consisting of all monitoring results for North Lake and a copy of the results for the third round of off-site well testing, which were not included in the RI.

We have the following specific comments on the report:

(1.) **Summary**

(a) The facility occupies 1028 acres vice 1412 acres listed.

(b) The facility serves as a homeport, not as the command post, for nuclear submarine operations.

(c) SUBASE currently has 13 sites. Two additional sites, Berth 16 and Pier 33 have recently been added.

(2.) **Background**

(a) The correct acreage is 1028 acres total and 584 acres for SUBASE.

(b) The base contains facilities for the "maintenance, repair, and overhaul of submarines".

(c) It is currently a homeport vice command post for submarines.

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(d) The last three paragraphs should be rewritten to indicate current status of studies for each site, including berth 16 and Pier 33.

### **(3.) Step I Sites**

(a) CBC Drum Storage Area: Twenty-six 55 gallon drums were stored, not disposed of, in this area.

(b) Rubble Fill at Bunker A-86. The drums stored on the hill at A-86 are used to store sand in the winter months. They are placed throughout the base during the snow season and collected each spring and stored behind bunker A-86.

(c) Torpedo Shops: Building 450 is still in use as a weapons overhaul facility. It is not an administrative quality assurance facility.

(d) Monitoring of the residential wells north of these shops has been completed.

(e) Former Gas Station: Suggest this be rewritten to reflect knowledge gained in Step I study.

### **(4.) Step II Sites**

(a) DPDO Area. This site is operated by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) not the Navy.

(b) Building 79 Waste Oil Pit - diesel engines were repaired and maintained, not cleaned, in this shop.

(c) The power plant oil tanks were used until they were replaced approximately six years ago. They were not stored since the Second World War.

(d) Fuel Oil Storage Tanks at Building 107. Three of the these tanks contained diesel oil, one contained lube oil, and one contained hydraulic oil. The hydraulic oil and lube oil tanks have been replaced and are still in service. The three diesel oil tanks have been cleaned and abandoned in accordance with State regulations.

(5.) Page 6. First paragraph should be re-written to reflect that work has been completed.

(6.) Page 6. Site visit - Atlantic Environmental Services representative on-site was Kurt Kraemer.

(7.) Page 6. Radioactive wastes are stored on-site. We will neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on site.



(8.) **Page 7.** First paragraph. Water samples are taken in the lake during the swimming season. Sediment and water samples are not routinely taken before each swimming season.

(9.) **Page 13.** First paragraph. Water sampling of private off-site wells has been completed.

Questions concerning this matter should be directed to Mr. W. L. Mansfield at (203) 449-2276.

*Signed*

NELSON G. GODDARD  
CDR, CEC, USN  
Public Works Officer

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